

Hills City Council Meeting
June 26, 2023
6:45 PM / Hills Community Center

The Joint Meeting of the Hill City Council, Hills Fire Department and Township Trustees was called to order by Mayor Kemp at 6:45 p.m. on Monday, June 26, 2023 at the Hills Community Center.

Present: Council members: Hill, Knebel, and Sommers. Absent: Hudachek. Also present: Schlitz, City Administrator; Frembgen Kesner, Deputy Clerk; Pantel, Fire Chief; Tom Isaacs & Wayne Barnes– West Lucas Township; Deanne Eden, Eldon Fouчек, & Ron Waldschmidt – Pleasant Valley Township; Lynn Knight & Deb Klopfenstein – Liberty Township; and Dale Rhodes, Sharon Township.

Chief Pantel provided an update on Fire Department calls and business for the year. The department will be looking to replace the tanker truck along with turnout gear in the next five years. The Fire Protection Agreement beginning July 1, 2023 was discussed and signed by all Townships present.

The regular Hills City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Kemp at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 26, 2023 at the Hills Community Center.

Present: Council members: Hill, Knebel, and Sommers. Absent: Hudachek. Also present: Schlitz, City Administrator; Frembgen Kesner, Deputy Clerk; Matt Pantel, Public Works; Teresa Volk, Sue Henderson, Doreen Strabala, residents; Scott Szymanek & Bill Parchert, Stutsman; and John & Bill Thompson, Thompson Aero.

Consent Agenda: A Motion was made by Knebel and seconded by Sommers to approve the agenda, the amended minutes from June 12, 2023 Council Meeting, scheduled list of claims – minus the \$5,871.60 claim for Alliant Energy transformer repair -, receipts from June 10, 2023 through June 23, 2023, and Butterfly Garden Grant Awards. Ayes: 3, Motion carried.

Public Comment: S. Henderson asked about the status of the parking signs behind the Community Center and sidewalk extensions. She would like the council to take action and encourage property owners to install sidewalks. D. Strabala voiced concerns about speeding on Main Street. A deputy was present and said that a speed trailer could be brought down and placed on Main Street. S. Henderson wanted to know about a possible speed bump on Knoll Ridge. D. Strabala reported that the drinking fountain at the City Park does not work. Staff will look into repairs. S. Szymanek and B. Parchert with Stutsman along with J & B Thompson with Thompson Aero alerted the council to a temporary airstrip on the Stutsman property to allow for customer demonstrations. Planes would not fly over the city. Council did not foresee any issue but asked staff to discuss with attorney.

Business:

Resolution 2023-27 was presented appointing Teresa Volk to fill the City Council Vacancy. A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Knebel to approve Resolution 2023-27. Roll Call: Ayes: Sommers, Knebel, Hill. Absent: Hudachek. Resolution 2023-27 approved.

The Oath of Office was administered to councilmember Volk.

Resolution 2023-28 was presented approving and authorizing the mayor to sign Fire Protection and First Responder Aid Services Agreement between the City of Hills, Pleasant Valley Township, Sharon Township, Liberty Township, East Lucas Township, and West Lucas Township. A Motion was made by Knebel and seconded by Sommers to approve Resolution 2023-28. Roll Call: Ayes: Knebel, Sommers, Hill, Volk. Absent: Hudachek. Resolution 2023-28 approved.

Resolution 2023-29 was presented authorizing the transfer of funds for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023. This was a revision to Resolution 2023-25. A Motion was made by Hill and seconded by Sommers to approve Resolution 2023-29. Roll Call: Ayes: Hill, Sommers, Knebel, Volk. Absent: Hudachek. Resolution 2023-29 approved.

A Motion was made by Knebel and seconded by Volk to set the Public Hearing for an Ordinance amending the Hills Code of Ordinances by enacting Special Speed Zones on Oak Crest Hill Road SE on July 10, 2023 beginning at 7:00 pm. Ayes: 4. Motion carried.

Council discussed repairs to a transformer damaged by a Fire Truck. A Motion was made by Sommers and seconded by Volk to approve a payment to Alliant Energy in the amount of \$5,871.60. Ayes: 4. Motion carried.

Reports:

Mayor: Suggested that the council consider transferring proceeds from the sale of the fire truck into a CD to set aside for future truck purchase.

Attorney: No Report

City Administrator: The East Avenue Road Project is expected to begin mid-August. Details will be provided once determined. A resident asked the council to consider installing a shade canopy at the Splash Pad Park Playground.

Maintenance: City Park bathrooms were vandalized. Johnson County Sheriff's Deputy spoke with the perpetrator.

Fire Chief:

Sewer: No Report

Water: No Report

Council Comments: Councilmember Sommers asked why the commission fees were not included in the resolution to approve the sale of the fire truck.

A Motion was made by Volk and seconded by Hill to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. Ayes:4. Motion carried.

Tim Kemp, Mayor

Kelley Schlitz, City Administrator